United Nations A/C.2/57/L.37

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
13 November 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 84 (a)
Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development

Venezuela:* draft resolution

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/182 of 20 December 2001 and 56/178 of 21 December 2001 on international trade and development,

Recalling also the Plan of Action adopted at the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,[1] which reaffirmed the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as focal point for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development,

Taking note of the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001,[2] and noting that the fifth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization to be held at Cancun, Mexico, in September 2003, will take stock of progress in the negotiations,

Recalling the provisions of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] dealing with trade and related development issues, as well as the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[4] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[5]

---

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] TD/390.

[2] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (E.02.II.A.7).

[5] A/CONF.199/20.

02-69197 (E) 141102

Recalling also that the domestic efforts made by many developing countries in recent years to reshape their economies, in particular by autonomous trade liberalization, will be in vain if they are not matched by fair market access for their main export priorities in goods and services and by effective support for the development of their supply capacity,

1. *Takes note* of the commitments of the Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization[2] to place the needs and interest of developing countries at the heart of the multilateral trade negotiations and adopt measures designed to ensure that developing countries, especially the least developed among them, secure a share in the growth of world trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development;

2. *Takes note also*, with appreciation, of the in-depth review undertaken by the Trade and Development Board with respect to developments and issues of particular concern to developing countries in the work programme of the World Trade Organization, adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference,[6] and its contribution to the understanding of the actions required to achieve an equitable, development-oriented outcome at the end of the Doha process;

3. *Expresses concern* about the adoption of a number of unilateral actions that harm the export potential of developing countries and have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

4. *Considers* that, in the context of the current world economic situation, the multilateral trading system should be reinforced by giving concrete shape to the development-related provisions of the work programme of the World Trade Organization, and by ensuring that the concerns of developing countries, in particular in terms of implementation issues and special and differential treatment, are met prior to the fifth Ministerial Conference to be held at Cancun, Mexico in September 2003;

5. *Reiterates* the need for the deadlines in the negotiating process, as established in the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha,[7] to be respected;

6. *Recognizes* that trade rules in the post-Doha framework should have a clear development content, and, in this regard:

(a) Issues relating to the implementation of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations[8] should receive priority attention in accordance with the proposals put forward by developing countries;

(b) Provisions for special and differential treatment are an integral part of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations by which the World Trade Organization was established, and all special and differential treatment provisions shall be reviewed so as to be strengthened and made more effective, operational and mandatory;

---

[6] A/C.2/56/7, annex, paras. 12-52.

[7] A/C.2/56/7, annex, paras. 45 and 46.

[8] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

(c) Ongoing negotiations aimed at clarifying and improving disciplines in the areas of anti-dumping, subsidies and countervailing measures should take into account the needs of developing countries, including the least developed countries;

(d) In the area of agriculture, a successful conclusion of the mandated negotiations could be achieved by improved market access, by removing trade-distorting export and domestic subsidies and by ensuring that non-trade concerns of developing countries such as rural development, poverty alleviation and food security are fully acknowledged and taken into account;

(e) Progressive liberalization of the services sector should focus on sectors and modes of supply of priority interest to developing countries, in particular the movement of natural persons;

(f) Full and timely implementation of the declaration on the Trade-related Intellectual Property Rights agreement and public health[9] should be ensured;

7. *Acknowledges* the seriousness of the concerns expressed by the least developed countries, and recognizes that the integration of the least developed countries into the multilateral trading system requires meaningful market access, support for the diversification of their production and export base, and trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building;

8. *Stresses* the need to facilitate and accelerate the accession of all developing countries that apply for membership of the World Trade Organization;

9. *Reaffirms* the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference at Doha and at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[10] and, in this regard, calls on developed countries that have not yet done so to work towards the objective of duty-free, quota-free market access for products originating from the least developed countries, as well as facilitating and accelerating the accession of least developed countries to the World Trade Organization;

10. *Stresses* that the trade concerns of small economies should receive priority attention in line with the mandates of the Fourth Ministerial Conference to ensure their sustainable development and benefit from the multilateral trading system;

11. *Expresses disappointment* with the slow progress in the implementation of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[8] which is a necessary and inherent condition of full implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements, and underlines its concern about new trade-restricting measures being applied in that sector;

12. *Stresses* the importance of examining the relationship between the trade negotiations undertaken at regional and subregional levels and the multilateral rules and commitments, in accordance with the relevant mandate of the Fourth Ministerial Conference, taking into account the developmental aspects of these agreements, and urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with its mandates, to provide technical inputs in this respect;

---

[9] WT/MIN(01)DEC/2.

[10] See A/CONF.191/11.

13. *Notes with concern* that, despite the previous rounds of multilateral negotiations on market access on non-agricultural products, excessively high levels of tariff barriers in some sectors, including textile and clothing products, are maintained by some developed countries, and in this regard reiterates that the work programme of the World Trade Organization should provide for maximum cut in tariff peaks and tariff escalation affecting developing country exports while giving consideration to adverse effects on developing countries, including the erosion of trade preferences;

14. *Expresses concern* with the proliferation of obstacles imposed on exports by developing countries for health, sanitary, safety or environmental reasons, and stresses the need for stronger commitment on the part of major importing trading partners not to apply such standards as unjustified and disguised means of protection;

15. *Stresses* the importance of increased participation of developing countries in setting standards and of increased technical assistance and capacity-building in this regard;

16. *Expresses satisfaction* with the renewed cooperation between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization as well as with the joint efforts to provide trade-related technical assistance, and stresses in this respect the importance of continuing and enhancing the implementation, following the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development programme of capacity-building and technical cooperation for developing countries, especially the least developed countries and economies in transition, in support of their participation in the work programme of the World Trade Organization adopted at Doha;

17. *Urges*, in this regard, the donor community to provide the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development with the necessary resources to deliver effective and demand-driven assistance to developing countries, especially least developed countries, and to small and vulnerable economies, as well as to increase their contributions to the trust funds of the Integrated Framework for Technical Assistance for Trade and Trade-related Activities and the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme;

18. *Calls upon* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, to contribute to the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[11] and welcomes the cooperation on trade, environment and development, including in the field of technical assistance to developing countries, between the secretariats of the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant international developmental or environmental organizations;

19. *Endorses* the outcome of the mid-term review of the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, [12] which was aimed at reviewing

[11] A/CONF.199/20, resolution 2, annex.
[12] See A/57/15 (Part II).

the implementation of the commitments and of the work programme agreed upon at the tenth session of the Conference, and reiterates its profound gratitude to the Government and people of Thailand for hosting the mid-term review;

20. *Welcomes* the generous offer by Brazil to host the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 2004, and takes note of the invitation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare the draft provisional agenda and the timetable for the Conference for consideration by the Trade and Development Board in the first quarter of 2003;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on developments in the multilateral trading system, under the item entitled "International trade and development".